GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:334
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2004
DIFFICULTIES FACED BY CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES
Shaheen Shri Abdul Rashid;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has undertaken any exercise to identify the difficulties being faced by Co-operative Societies of the Agro and Rural Industries in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any corrective/remedial measures in this regard; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof till date?

Answer

MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES & AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT ATTACHED TO THE REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 334 FOR REPLY ON 18.08.2004

(a) to (d): No, Sir. No such exercise has been undertaken since there has been very little involvement of cooperative societies in the implementation of various programmes in the Agro and Rural Industries Sector under the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries during the last 3 years.

The National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), the nodal Agency for cooperati ve development in the country, under the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation which is assisting the development of different Cooperative societies in the country has informed that Co-operative including those in the Agro and Rural Industries sector are facing problems like lack of Professional management, over staffing , non-availability of schemes for rehabilitation of sick co-operatives, weak financial position, unviable size, lack of support from States Governments etc.

For improving the performance of the cooperatives, a number of remedial measures are being taken which interalia include infusion of funds towards term loans and working capital, technology upgradation, increasing capacity to minimum economic size, etc.